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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Paul Giotto et al.

Serial No.: 09/899,662

Art Unit: 2151

Filed: July 5, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR ENSURING OPERATION DURING NODE FAILURES
AND NETWORK PARTITIONS IN A CLUSTERED MESSAGE PASSING
SERVER

Docket No.: FRR-12587

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

JAN 08 2002

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicant is aware of the publications listed in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of each of the publications is enclosed herewith.

The first four documents listed are from the Reliable Distributed Computing group at Cornell University. The documents describe current general (not specifically related to messaging) research in clustering, and specific information about the architecture and limitations of Microsoft's clustering product.

The fifth document is a white paper about scalability from Sonic Software and describes an approach very different to what is described in the present application. Although many JMS vendors have offered some form of clustering, they provide little technical information about it. What they do provide is still quite marketing oriented as it makes many

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David E. Spaw
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)
11/9/01
Date
Signature of Attorney

claims but provides little detail on how these are accomplished or what their limitations are. This white paper should at least show that their basic approach is quite different than the present application.

The last document is the master's thesis of Jesper Honig Spring, one of the inventor's in the present application. It describes a clustering technique for a JavaSpaces server. JavaSpaces has some basic similarities to JMS style messaging. The approaches differ, though, as the technique described in the thesis is clearly oriented toward robust operation over wide area networks, while the present invention aims for maximum performance assuming all nodes are connected by a local area network.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By  _____
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November 9, 2001

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Sheet 1 of 2

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

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Application Number	09/899,662
Filing Date	July 5, 2000
First Named Inventor	Paul Giotta
Group Art Unit	2151
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	FRR-1258

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OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Scalability of the Microsoft Cluster Service, Werner Vogels, Dan Dumitriu, Ashutosh Agrawal, Teck Chia, Katherine Guo, Department of Computer Science, Cornell University.	
		The Design and Architecture of the Microsoft Cluster Service, A Practical Approach to High-Availability and Scalability, Werner Vogels, Dan Dumitriu, Ken Birman (Dept. of Computer Science Cornell University).	
		An Overview of the Galaxy Management Framework for Scalable Enterprise Cluster Computing, Werner Vogels, Dan Dumitriu, Dept. of Computer Science, Cornell University.	
		Six Misconceptions about Reliable Distributed Computing, Werner Vogels, Robert van Renesse and Ken Birman, Dept. of Computer Science, Cornell University.	
		Dynamic Routing in SonicMQ 3.0.	
		A dynamically fault-tolerant and dynamically scalable distributed tuplespace for heterogeneous, loosely coupled networks, A thesis submitted in the partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of CANDIDATUS SCIENTIARUM in COMPUTER SCIENCE by Jesper Honig Spring.	

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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